Central Board of Secondary Education for classes IX to XII. Changes if any, have been informed to the Vidyalayas.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Status of Sanskrit language

5115. SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sanskrit is one of the oldest and most developed languages of the world ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Sanskrit has been found to be very suitable for use in computers ;

(c) if so, what is being done for the promotion of Sanskrit studies and research in India ;

(d) what is the current status of Sanskrit in the following matters (i) total number of students studying at various levels; (ii) number of Sanskrit universities and universities having teaching and research facilities; (iii) foreign countries and universities offering Sanskrit studies; and (iv) International cooperation, if any, in the field of Sanskrit studies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An exploratory study in the area of Sanskrit for Computational rendering of Paninian grammar and machine translation has been started.

(d) (i) 4753 students are reading Sanskrit in the organisations under the control of this Ministry. Detailed information about the strength of students studying Sanskrit at various levels is not available with Government.

(ii) There are three Sanskrit Universities and two Deemed to be Universities. Besides, Sanskrit teaching/research faculties are available in 67 Universities/ Deemed Universities.

(iii) The information is not available with Government.

(iv) International Sanskrit Conferences are organised from time to time.

Study on girl student by Washington-Based Research Group

5116. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU .

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the editorial report in the Indian Express, quoting a Worldwide study by a Washington-based research group, to the effect that fewer girls get into schools compared to boys and that Indian record was particularly dismal ;

(b) if so, what percentage of girls stayed away from schools in the world and in India according to the said research group report, and how these figures agree with India's own assessment ; and

(c) what steps are being taken under the Eighth Five Year Plan to improve the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c) No such report is available with the Government. However, as far as India is concerned, according to Selected Educational Statistics (1992-93) printed by the Ministry out of 7.62 crores girl in the age group 6-14 years, 5.99 crore were enrolled in primary and upper primary schools.

The national policy on Education as revised in 1992, resolves that all children upto 14 years of age are to be provided elementary education before we enter the 21st Century. Towards this end, the programme of action, 1992 which was laid on the table of both the Houses of Parliament on 19th August, 1992 stresses the following measures :